

DISTRICT VI ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

7:00 p.m.

Evergreen Recreation Center, 2700 N. Woodland

Members Present

John Van Walleghen
Tony Rangel
Wendell Turner
Sharon Fearey
Bickley Foster
Linda Matney
Bob Schreck
Doratheia Sloan

Members Absent

Veronica Casados
Clarence Wiley
Greg Chinn

Guests: See attached list

Council Member Cole called the official meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Council Member Cole welcomed guests and commented she was happy to see so many people at the DAB meeting for the Northwest Traffic Study. Many of you were mailed a postcard to invite you here tonight.

Council Member Cole commented that the meeting on August 23rd did not allow for people to ask questions and/or receive answers.

The purpose for the DAB meeting tonight will allow you: 1) The opportunity to speak, make comments, and ask questions; 2) Ask the questions you wished you had asked on August 23rd and 3) Comment on where the bridge will go. I trust you will all do this in a civil manner and if you don't we will ask you to leave.

Also, I know for some of you that this is your third meeting. There have been two separate meetings with separate groups. A number of people have never seen this presentation. My DAB may be some of those people. The DAB is here to advise me, I value them highly and trust their judgment and the DAB will help me come to a decision so I'm asking you to be patient in allowing them to see this presentation.

Council Member Cole explained the process of how the District VI Advisory Board was selected to serve, and recognized **Kathy Dittmer**, Selection Committee Chairperson, for the way she handled the selection process. **Council Member Cole**, feeling strongly about neighborhood involvement, stated that the District VI Neighborhood and Homeowners Associations were also included in the selection process.

Council Member Cole also spoke about the role of the Consultant. The purpose for a Consultant is to assign a job of data collection that the City Council asks for. One piece of decision making is based on data, another political and some emotional. This way all areas are looked at. My DAB does not let me tell them, they tell me what to do. At this time DAB Members were asked to introduce him or herself and identify the area or association represented.

Following DAB introductions, **Council Member Cole** introduced Police Officers Pfeifer, Harbour, Lacy, Wood and Franco. Introductions of City Staff, Steve Lackey; Mike Lindeback; and Carl Gipson, who are from Public Works. Jamsheed Mehta, Planning and John Philbrick, Property Management.

-- Approval of Minutes
September 11th Minutes will be approved at October 2nd DAB meeting

-- Approval of Agenda
Northwest Traffic Study was the only item on the agenda.

PUBLIC AGENDA

The Public Agenda contains requests from members of the public who desire to present matters to the Council.

No items were submitted.

PLANNING

No items were submitted.

1. North West Traffic Study

Consultant **Raja Govindaswamy** showed a power point presentation on the Northwest Traffic Study. These were the issues to be reviewed:

- Projected traffic forecast to year 2030
- Railroad crossings along Zoo Boulevard
- Cost Estimates
- Traffic Study in area of West, Ridge, Central and 29th Streets
- Measurement of Traffic Congestion (delays-volume and level of service)
Congestion along Floodway at I-235, Zoo, Central, US 54 and Maple
Traffic flow along major streets
Traffic flow on Zoo Boulevard

Alternatives for the Plan

- Do nothing
- Bridge at I-235 on US 54 and Central
- 25th Street Crossing
- 21st Street Crossing
- 13th Street Crossing
- 13th Street with Ramps
- Closing Westdale Drive at Zoo Blvd.

The price range for these various proposed projects ranged from \$19 Million to \$ 120 Million.

Council Member Cole asked *Public Works Director Steve Lackey*, to explain a plan from a previous City Council on how to unplug traffic congestion. Concepts were taken to CPO for comments and this idea returned to City Council.

- 13th Street as five lanes from West Street to I-135, Council Member Cole decided that wasn't the answer.

Left turn lanes for 13th and McLean, St. Paul, Broadway, Mosley and Waco. Not to straighten out the curves and no continuous five lanes. 13th and Waco has been completed and the other streets will be worked on in the future.

The following is a variety of questions asked to the consultant and City Staff present:

1. Traffic Flow east of I-235 where will it go?
2. Why was the same Consultant firm used?
3. The residential growth is mainly at 25th to 29th streets, Why not put turn lanes at 13th and West Street in order to travel down 21st?
4. Is it not true to widen 13th Street can be changed by City Council?
5. How will the noise level not increase into quiet neighborhoods?
6. Why can't we wait to see what the traffic flow will be after the construction work is done at Zoo Boulevard before developing a bridge on 13th over the big ditch?
7. How do we have confidence in this data that is presented to us, due to past situations?
8. Where will the money come from for this project?
9. Are other DAB's being shown this presentation?

This is the response to the questions, either from the Consultant or City Staff.

1. Can not pin down the direction the traffic would take, only that they would want a continuous route.
2. The proposal was to update the data and because the data was familiar to the Consultant they were selected, also cost was a factor.
3. When people leave home they have a certain destination, which is the fastest way; the 13th Street Bridge would allow a variety of destinations to follow.
4. Yes.
5. During the design phase, Federal guidelines for noise will be considered and studies completed.
6. Because of the results of the study show that it will need two crossings to get projected traffic across.
7. An assumption where land use is going to be and the trends of where settlement is occurring is what is looked at. The 1994 study is already showing changes.
8. Politics and the City Council will have to look for the money.
9. The presentation is only for DAB V and VI. Anyone is welcome to speak on any DAB public agenda about any topic. You are welcome to do that for this issue.

Also see Attachment C.

Citizen Comments

Joe Wilson: See Attachment A and was passing a flyer about the Nation's 10 worst commuting trouble spots.

Daisy Painter: Long time resident on 13th Street. Lived in house 50 years last November. This is a quiet neighborhood. We hate to see our neighborhood tore up.

Larry G. White: 4409 W. 10th, Orchard Park NA. Lived in Wichita 50 years. 1970 past major recession. 30 year projection is a guess. I moved to Orchard Park and it takes longer for me to get to work. I did not ask City Council to change NW River Blvd. I had to leave sooner to get to work. Too many people out West-need to get started earlier to get to work. People take responsibility for where they live or move. Inner City, Fire Station #4 will close. Do not destroy our Inner City. Midtown Association wants to change their one-way streets to two-way streets for safety reasons. 13th Street Bridge will destroy our neighborhood. We don't want to destroy our quiet neighborhood. I did nothing when homes around me were destroyed. I will not do that again.

Jane Lyon: Three things have not been addressed

1. 2nd Opinion-same as if going to a Doctor. We need to start fresh.
2. Not enough consideration to future growth/ North of 13th, 21st and 29th Streets
3. On west 13th there is a concentration of elderly. Presbyterian Manor-Terrace Gardens, any time there is more traffic around the elderly there is a chance for more accidents. These things need to be looked at and not just to save money. Don't take 13th Street and extend it.

Rosalie Bradley: See Attachment B

Lisa Chestnut: On the summary sheet this project could impact 30 homes. Is that destruction of homes? Why wait after Council approves to show figures about the noise. Take these peoples lives before Council. Information is needed to make a decision instead of after the facts knowing that problems exist.

Council Member Cole responded those 30 homes is an estimate and if the right-of-way is taken then homes would possibly be moved elsewhere. This is why we are here tonight. This is not done yet. Again this is a political decision. Environmental studies will be done prior to a decision pertaining to noise. Carl Gipson, Public Works, added that standards have to be met for certain criteria to be accepted.

Elmer Seibel: Many trains will back up traffic/ cars backed up to the North/South. If the railroad owns the Right-of Way, they won't keep the track maintained for one train a day.

Robert Wine: Residents along 13th to 25th that remain will lose considerable value to their property. I concur to the other speakers. An independent study should be pre-empted if 30 homes are impacted-lots more than 30 homes. If traffic is along 25th more homes will be impacted but not destroyed. Living in the area how will we enter and exit?

Steve Lackey, Public works responded that the homes that remain will not be compensated if the area value decreases. This project calls for people to be moved.

Lee Shiney: The buzz is we need relief right now from traffic that is backed up for miles. Ridge-Windmill to 13th, I drove this stretch of road and it took me six minutes. There was no traffic backed up. The 2nd time it took me eight minutes to drive. I don't know what relief is from. I see a discrepancy. Council Member Martz says it's a concept. 30 homes and millions of \$ dollars. Five years ago, Bill Stockwell said my home would be taken and 50 more homes. We need a better plan before we go forward. Take a stand against Urban Sprawl and *preserve* older neighborhoods. Build the bridge along 25th. A number of us are going to fight every step of this process.

Nile Dillmore: 1102 N. Jefferson I'm not here representing Wichita Independent Neighborhoods just the man at this address. With increased traffic going West/East on 13th Street. How do your models fly across 13th street bridge and disappear. Less than one year ago, hundred's of neighbors voiced opposition to the Trend Scenario. The impact down the road is very immediate. West to McLean is well kept yards with fine homes. The first car lot or traffic from west on they're way to somewhere else not to downtown. Traffic moving east straight across 13th to downtown. We don't see the logic you are saying. We now have a nice neighborhood and don't want 2300 cars dispersed into our neighborhood.

Kim Mudd: 1414 N. Doris Circle-I live four houses North of this proposed bridge. In the September 14th Eagle an article stated that 19th street is sparsely populated and a good site. Comment cards from the August 23rd meeting; are they available for public reading? *Carl Gipson responded that all information would be in the final report.*

If they are for public review you will see that only one person is in favor of the bridge. Why would the City put children and quiet neighborhoods through this? 21st and 29th area is growing. Some at 13th but further west. If a person chooses further West to live they should pay the consequences. 13th Street is not a major thoroughfare. Destroyed neighborhoods and children locked in basements is what will come of this plan.

Gene Mudd: 1414 N. Doris Circle-I have been to four meetings and have not learned anything different. 13th Street is the only thing that is talked about. There is one person for the bridge. We are against it. We live in a terrible place. More traffic from I-235 and totally amazing about how to get in and out. If they build a bridge over floodway to Zoo Boulevard, Windmill and 13th Street? What about the two intersections? Build a bridge over 21st –you won't move houses, over 25th –you won't move houses, over 29th – you won't move houses. This is not right. What about trailer homes?

Kathy Dittmer: 823 Litchfield-I'm here as a citizen who lives near Riverside. The time for the bridge has come and gone, five years ago the City said that the majority of growth was West to the North. 13th Street- five lanes. To many problems on 13th Street. Major

corridor upgrades on Kellogg-I-235, fix Maple, Seneca, and Meridian and encourage people to use this. A very big concern about the CORE area. Suburban areas need to get to town. We don't want this to happen. We are just asking for more used car lots on any corner. This is viable to neighborhoods. People are moving into preserve neighborhoods. City government should look at 25th Street.

Duane Jones: 1530 Smith Circle # 501. Going across eight lanes of traffic to get to Orchard Park Senior Center, Hadley School, Library or Recreation Center. How can we get across? Where are people coming from and going? Offices and Hotels are not being built downtown. USD 259-can't imagine. Maize coming into our area schools. When we build roads and bridges, gas crisis hits. Nothing is going on downtown; all this traffic is going into neighborhood. New windows will be needed for 1400 homes due to loud traffic.

Julie Mott: 1339 N. Anna- This plan is atrocious. My house will stay. Bad plan for Wichita in general. The constant applause is punctuation that everyone is saying the same thing at once. Ditch projects have major road crossings. I drove on the West Side today to look. Under developed area. 21st Street already is four lanes and 25th designed as a highway exit to relieve congestion. Central Street plans to be upgraded. If this increase is only 2% of traffic. What good will this plan do? I travel a lot and it does not take me more than 10 minutes to get across town. This doesn't make sense. Can this be vetoed before it is in the design stage?

Council Member Cole commented that all processes to this project would be reviewed along the way. There are stages to be considered. To the citizens who attended tonight, I appreciate you coming and Thank You for your comments. Also the decisions to be made will need a 1) Majority vote to pass; 2) Three people need to be held accountable: The Mayor, the District representative; and the County; and 3) Public support. At this time, I would like to hear from the DAB Members and give them a chance to make comments.

Member Foster stated that the Planning Staff and Consultant have done their job but we need a way to look at the houses involved. This will hurt people. We need to go one step further.

John Philbrick, Property Management, commented that when the City is ready to acquire property – fair market value is negotiated. Appraisers are asked to look beyond the taint. Compare to similar houses away from the project.

Member Van Walleghen stated that this was quite a project to do. Concerned that this study did not look further. This is not a good response to us.

Member Sloan said that she drives Windmill Road/Zoo and sees traffic on I-235 going South and North, and does not see much traffic going East or West but at K-96 there is lots of traffic there.

Member Schreck (Van Walleghe) made a motion to postpone for discussion and a decision until two weeks at the DAB meeting held on Wednesday, October 18th, 2000. (Accepted 8-0)

Council Member Cole encouraged all interested citizens to attend the DAB meeting on October 18th. Also to my DAB Members, I will hope to get information on this topic to help with the decision making.

A citizen present thanked Council Member Cole and the DAB for having the presentation and for taking the time to listen to all the concerns.

Member Schreck handed out information to the DAB Members present about WasteWater Treatment.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Guest List

Wanda Glassburner	4700 W. 13 th N #1510
Sandi Keeler	4700 W. 13 th N
Robert & Janet Wine	1402 N. Doris Circle 67212
Gene & Kim Mudd	1414 N. Doris Circle 67212
Leitha Martin	1355 N. Anna, 67212
Jennifer Martin	1355 N. Anna, 67212
Bob & Phyllis Randle	962 Back Bay Blvd., 67203
Janie Krull	1313 N. Emporia, 67214
John & Kathy Dittmer	823 Litchfield, 67203
Anita Clark	907 N. Flora, 67212
John & Vicci Snapp	5214 W. 13 th Ct. 67212
Walter & Joan Martz	2108 Bella Vista 67203
Stephanie Shanks & Steve Heyen	1340 N. Baker 67212
Lucas Rodriquez	1413 Doris Circle, 67212
Duane L. Jones	1530 N. Smith Circle #501 67212-5508
Jack & Cynthia Schulte	1257 Baker, 67212
Colleen Waller	1457 Smith Ct #2 67212
Jim Pracht	1410 N. Doris Circle 67212
Nate & Julie Matt	1339 N Anna 67212
Richard Hess	1643 Woodrow Ct, 67203
Milford & Carol Peterson	2607 N. Athenian 67204
James & Barbara Cooper	4935 W. 13 th 67212
Bob Bulman	2630 N. NorthShore 67205

Carolyn Bolduc	3814 W 20 th Street N 67203
Mike & Heidi Holtgreffe	4623 W. 11 th N, 67212
Chuck & Diane Kramer	4817 W. 11 th N, 67212
Kent Winkenwader	1318 Stackman #F6, 67203
John & Nancy Stowers	1323 Baker 67212
Mary L. Stephens	14100 Cherokee, Derby 67037
James R. Wells	3902 W 20 th N, 67203
Bryon Bowden	4621 W 11 th , 67212
Lisa Chestnut	4700 W 13 th 67212
Jack & Rosalie Bradley	1401 Julianne, 67203
Bonnie Hollis	2307 N. McLean Blvd. 67204
Dale B. Norton	1101 Chipper 67212
Joanne Goodman	2568 Salina 67204
Karen Goodman	2568 Salina 67204
Marjorie Maeleseee	1585 N. Athenian 67203
John Breising	804 W 32 nd N 67204
Joe Wilson	1652 Westlynn 67212
El & Gwen Larson	2239 W. 25 th N 67204
Daisy Painter	5021 W 13 th 67212
Glee Eby	1337 Smith 67212
Larry G. White	4409 W 10 th 67212
Jane Lyon	4700 W 13 B5-4 67212
Meredith Thompson	1530 N Smith Circle 67212
Leonard Hale	4800 W 13 th 67212
Merl Hollis	2307 N. McLean 67204
Joseph Skladzien	2110 N McComas 67203
Betty Woodward	1320 Baker, 67212
Jan & Chuck Hadley	1616 Garland 67203
Nile Dillmore	1102 Jefferson 67203
Lee & Lajeane Shirley	1329 Baker 67212
Adeline Brown	4700 W. 13 th #9-6
Randy Mythian	4700 W. 13 th
Helen Harris	4700 W. 13 th 3-6
Margaret McHugh	4700 W. 13 th 3-3
Miltone Tuell	4700 W 13 th #1-4
Dorothy Rowden	4700 W. 13 th 16-2
Virginia Haigh	4700 W 13 th 8-6
Leota Steel	4700 W 13 th 12-2
Evelyn Derney	4700 W. 13 th #1-1
Ruth Porter	4700 W. 13 th 1-5
Jane Clark	4700 W. 13 th 2-6
Dolores Noel	4700 W. 13 th 2-5
Mollie Boaz	4700 W. 13 th 1524
Eleanor Robinson	4700 W. 13 th 5-2

Respectfully Submitted,
Terri Dozal, District VI Neighborhood Assistant